

Appl. No. 09/836,438
In re Gascher
Reply to Office Action of Oct. 6, 2004

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A process for securing a communication between a recognition device and an electronic identification unit able to automatically communicate with the recognition device by a data exchange determined by a recognition protocol, one of these items of data corresponding to a reference event (R), the process is able to communicate in such a way that the recognition device can authenticate the identification unit so as to instruct at least one of the unlocking of openable panels of a vehicle ~~and/or~~ and permit the starting of ~~[[a]] the vehicle, and furthermore comprises~~ the process comprising:

- after an initialization time (T0) defined with respect to the reference event (R) of the recognition protocol, a step of transmission by the recognition device of at least two transmission data (P1, P2),
- a step of transmission by the identification unit of at least two response data (P1R, P2R) automatically generated by the identification unit in response to the transmission data (P1, P2),
- a step of measuring a reaction time (Tr) between the transmission of data ~~item~~ (P1) and the reception of ~~[[a]] the~~ corresponding response data ~~item~~ (P1R) by the recognition device, and
- a step of verifying that the measured reaction time is less than a predetermined threshold,

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wherein ~~[[the]]~~ at least one of a time interval (T) between the transmission of the at least two successive transmission data (P1, P2) ~~and/or~~ and the initialization time (T0) ~~are/is~~ is made to vary randomly.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The process as claimed in claim 1, in which at least the time interval (T) between the transmission of the at least two successive transmission data (P1, P2) is made to vary in the course of the same exchange of data between the recognition device and the identification unit.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The process as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 ~~[[or 2]]~~, in which at least one of the time interval (T) between the transmission of the at least two successive transmission data (P1, P2) ~~and/or~~ and the initialization time (TO) ~~are/is~~ is made to vary with each exchange of data between the recognition device and the identification unit.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The process as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 ~~[[to 3]]~~, furthermore comprising an authentication phase (AUT) comprising ~~in particular~~ a wakeup step (RE), a request step (RQ), an anticollision step (ANT), a selection step (SE) and ~~possibly~~ a response step (RP).

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Claim 5 (currently amended): The process as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 [[to 4]], in which the step of transmission by the recognition device consists in the transmission of several transmission data (P1, P2, P3) and the step of transmission by the identification unit consists in the transmission of several corresponding response data (P1R, P2R, P3R) and furthermore comprising:

- a step of measuring several reaction times (T_r) between the transmission and the reception of several data (P1, P2, P3, P4),
- a step of calculating the average of these reaction times,
- and a step of comparing the latter with the predetermined threshold so as to authenticate the identification unit.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The process as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 [[to 5]], in which the reaction times (T_r) are the n smallest reaction times measured, n being a predefined integer.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The process as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 [[to 5]], in which the reference event (R) of the recognition protocol corresponds to the dispatching of a response datum (RP) by the identification unit.

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Claim 8 (currently amended): The process as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 [[to 5]], in which the reference event (R) of the recognition protocol corresponds to the dispatching of a selection datum (SE) by the recognition device.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The process as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 [[to 5]], in which the reference event (R) of the recognition protocol corresponds to the dispatching of a initialization datum (RE) by the recognition device.